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City won't pursue 'essential' tag for OC Transpo

REPORT Transit may be an important service for Ottawa residents, but it's not essential and it's not likely to be any time soon.

Yesterday, the city's corporate services committee decided not to pursue the issue of designating OC Transpo an essential service after receiving a staff report advising against it. That move effectively put the brakes on the prospect of it ever happening.

"The designation of an essential service does not eliminate the chances of a strike," said city solicitor Rick O'Connor, adding that evidence shows it can actually prolong a strike and result in only limited bus service during a strike anyhow.

Bay Ward Coun. Alex Cullen, chair of the city's transit committee, argued that since transit services in Ottawa have gone on strike only three times since the end of the Second World War, there was no strong evidence of a "broken system that required taking away the rights of management and employees..."

TIM WIECLAWSKI
/METRO OTTAWA

Riding the Recession

Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

Auto

In this time of penny pinching, the experts explain why you should

know the financial ins and outs of your insurance, pg 10 Tomorrow

We give you a few budget-friendly meals your whole family will love, and a local Meal for a Steal.

Milan Fashion Week

Winter roses



A model walks the runway yesterday at the Zuhair Murad fashion show for the designer's Fall/Winter 2009 women's collection during Milan Fashion Week in Milan, Italy.

Ont. expects \$18B deficit over 2 years

Ontario is awash in red ink, with an \$18-billion shortfall over two years, including a record one-year deficit to be projected in the upcoming budget, says Finance Minister Dwight Duncan.

In a surprise move, Duncan yesterday revealed the sobering figure more than three weeks before the March 26 budget. "The world is a very different place than it's been in the past. We thought that getting the ballpark range was an appropriate thing to do," he told reporters following a speech to a joint Empire and Canadian Club luncheon.

While the finance minister refused to disclose a breakdown of the deficit figures for the fiscal year ending March 31 or for 2009-10, he acknowledged the upcoming shortfall would exceed the \$12.4-billion record set by the 1992 budget introduced by NDP finance minister Floyd Laughren.

However, he said that there would be no new tax hikes as there were under the New Democrats in the early 1990s.

The \$18 billion is a combined deficit tally for 2008-

Bad news strategy

- The decision to release the number early echoes the strategy of the federal Conservative government, which leaked its \$34-billion deficit figure days before its Jan. 27 budget.

09, which the government projected in November would have a shortfall of just \$500 million, and for 2009-10.

Duncan said the ballooning deficit is due to the worldwide financial crisis, which has led to declining tax revenues and forced the province to help Ottawa bail out General Motors of Canada and Chrysler Canada and pay more toward federal infrastructure programs.

Yesterday, Premier Dalton McGuinty appeared to suggest the government wants to get the deficit tally out of the way so the good news in the budget can filter out to the public on March 26.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Fight for women's rights needs to include men: Gov. Gen.

KATHRYN YOUNG
for Metro Ottawa

ISSUES Men must be included in the fight for women's rights, Gov. Gen. Michaëlle Jean told 115 youth who gathered at Rideau Hall yesterday to discuss how to get more women and girls in-

terested in politics.

"The fight for the full recognition of the rights of women cannot be waged without them or against them," Jean told the mostly local teenagers. "If we are to succeed, it must be waged with them."

She will take her message to an international

conference on women's issues in Liberia this coming weekend, coinciding with International Women's Day on Sunday. But her message also inspired the students.

"We have to be supportive of women, and not just say 'stay home and bake food,'" said Chris Bento, 17.

"We have to be part of the solution," agreed Christopher Bernard, 17.

Later, the students attended Question Period and met with Helena Guergis, minister of state for the status of women.

Dominique Souris, 16, said the day's events changed her mind about go-

ing into politics — now she'll consider it, especially after hearing such statistics as that Canada ranks 47th out of 110 countries in terms of equality in governance, with fewer female political representatives than Iraq, Rwanda, other parts of Africa, most of Europe and Australia.

Former Liberal member of Parliament Herb Gray will be officially installed as Carleton University's 10th chancellor at a formal ceremony at the Museum of Civilization, tomorrow evening. The event will include his keynote address, an Aboriginal blessing and a formal procession. **METRO OTTAWA**

Local



Need help with your taxes?

Need help with your 2009 income tax return? If your income is low enough, you're not going bankrupt and it's a simple return for an individual, you might qualify for free advice. The Community Information Centre of Ottawa has put together a list of free income tax clinics offered by a variety of organizations in English and French. Simply call 2-1-1 between 8 a.m. and 6 p.m. to get the details and see if you qualify. **METRO OTTAWA**

34 A Channel staffers laid off

CTV makes 118 job cuts across the province, says TV business broken

KATHRYN YOUNG
for Metro Ottawa

The evening, late night and weekend newscasts of Ottawa's A Channel television station have been axed and 34 people laid off, part of a national lay-off of 118 people, CTVglobemedia Inc. announced yesterday.

The morning newscast will undergo a style change and be lengthened to four hours, and a Saturday morning 7 to 9 a.m. show will be added, but on-air personalities Karen Solomon, Ken Evraire and Doug Hempstead were let go.

"The three of them just got caught up in a numbers game," said Richard Gray, vice-president and general manager of A Channel. "They're all really good people, all very tal-



Yesterday, CTV announced it was laying off 118 employees of its A Channel television stations. In Ottawa and Pembroke 34 people were laid off.

ented people."

A Channel is owned by CTV Limited, a division of CTVglobemedia, which last week announced the broadcast licences for two

southern Ontario A channel stations in Wingham and Wheatley would not be renewed when they expire in August.

Yesterday's layoffs,

which struck 10 people in the Pembroke operation and 24 in Ottawa, were more than just a cost-saving measure.

"This is a stopgap meas-

ure to buy us some time until the CRTC hopefully can recognize that the conventional television business in Canada is broken," Gray said, adding that there will be even more programming cuts and station closures if the Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission doesn't change the way conventional television stations are financed.

Local stations want what's called fee-for-carriage, which is a small fee per cable and satellite subscriber that would be turned over to local broadcasters to help fund local programming, he said.

"For years and years and years, cable companies have received local station signals for free," Gray said.

Alternative programming will run in the newscast timeslots.

Aboriginal students get into the lab

KATHRYN YOUNG
for Metro Ottawa

PROGRAM Cody Iahtail has won an all-expenses-paid trip for spring break this year, but rather than lazing on a sunny beach, the 21-year-old Adult High School student will be isolating DNA from bananas in a food and nutrition lab at the University of Guelph.

Iahtail, in Grade 12, is one of a dozen First Nations, Métis and Inuit students chosen through a cross-Canada competition to gain hands-on experience in food science research.

"I've always wanted to work in the field of medical lab science and there's only so much research you can do in a high school science lab," she said. "It's an amazing opportunity that will clarify whether this is a career I'm going to enjoy and be passionate about."

Iahtail, who is of First Nations descent, will work with scientists Rickey Yada and Alejandro Marangoni as they use basic chemical techniques to isolate DNA from different fruits and then visualize it using a technique called gel electrophoresis.

The internship program is sponsored by the federally funded Advanced Foods and Materials Network to encourage more aboriginal students to consider science as a career.



Cody Iahtail

metronews.ca

What's online today.

Video Failure at all levels led to botched breast cancer tests in Newfoundland at metronews.ca/canada

Analysis Rash of gang violence in Vancouver linked to Mexican drug wars at metronews.ca/canada



Lotteries

Ontario Pick 3: 8 3 2; Ontario Pick 4: 7 5 9 6

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These results are not official.

Hospitals plead for fees exemption

TIM WIECLAWSKI
tim.wieclawski@metronews.ca

COUNCIL As of March 31, Ottawa hospitals will no longer be exempt from development charges, but the city has pledged to work with health-care officials to find other ways to help cover construction costs.

A group of the city's top hospital executives, led by Champlain LHIN CEO Dr. Robert Cushman, descended on the city's finance committee meeting yesterday, urging councillors to at the very least delay the plan to stop reimbursing the charges.

"From a fundraising point of view, this is the sort of situation that could cripple us."

Gérald Savoie, Montfort Hospital executive

He said they need more time to come up with a plan to recoup the funds they would have saved by not paying those charges.

"The March 31 deadline scares me," Cushman said. "I think we need to better understand what the issues are, and if there is a compromise we can work out."

Hospitals had been essentially exempt from development charges since 2002. To date hospitals have saved nearly \$25 million in fees and land

charges.

Without those savings from the city, Gérald Savoie, chief executive with the Montfort Hospital, said the burden would be shifted onto the citizens to raise more funds to cover construction costs.

"From a fundraising point of view, this is the sort of situation that could cripple us," he said. "This recommendation is short-sighted from a city point of view and we will regret this day if we go forward."

The committee voted to stick to the March 31 deadline, but they agreed to form a special committee composed of provincial, city and hospital officials to examine the impacts of the decision and find other funding solutions.

City treasurer Marian Simulik said they could still go back and retroactively refund the charge if they wanted to reverse the decision when the special committee reports in September.

"The date will not be set in stone today," she said. "It's a council policy and council can change its policy."



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Man pleads not guilty in bus beheading trial

Believing he was acting on orders from God, Vincent Li allegedly attacked a stranger on a Greyhound bus in Manitoba last summer, mutilating his victim before decapitating him and cannibalizing part of the body. Li pleaded not guilty yesterday in Winnipeg to a charge of second-degree murder. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

Canada



Former speaker dead at 73

Gilbert Parent, the former Liberal Speaker of the House of Commons, died Monday night at the age of 73. Parent, who had represented a riding in Ontario's Niagara region, was Speaker from 1994-2001. He had battled a lengthy illness. Known as "Gibby," Parent was elected to Parliament in 1979 and 1980, but lost his seat during the Conservative sweep in the 1984 federal election. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

WSIB needs big changes, review says

LABOUR The provincial insurance program that is supposed to promote safe workplaces needs to be immediately fixed and possibly replaced in the future, says a sweeping review that could affect tens of thousands of Ontario businesses.

The review, commissioned by the Workplace Safety and Insurance Board, says dangerous companies are getting cash rewards and many employers are exploiting the WSIB's incentive program at the expense of injured workers. It urges the WSIB to make CEOs more accountable.

Workers remain at risk unless changes are made, the review warns.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Nova Scotia Winter wallop



A man and his dog traverse the sidewalk in downtown Amherst, N.S., yesterday morning. Thousands of people in the Maritimes are without power following a night of freezing rain.

BRAD WORSAM/AMHERST DAILY NEWS

Official raps staff, feds over prisoner suicide

Mentally ill teenager's death preventable: Report

The federal government and others have a responsibility to finally answer Ashley Smith's desperate cry for help, Canada's correctional investigator Howard Sapers says.

Sapers presented his A Preventable Death report yesterday with "considerable sadness and frustration" and emphasized the deeply troubled Moncton, N.B., teenager's death in a Kitchener prison was another example of the systemic failures of the federal prison system.

The 19-year-old Smith, described as mentally ill and suicidal, bounced around the federal prison

Moved around

- Smith was an inmate at the Grand Valley Institute for Women in Kitchener when she committed suicide on Oct. 19, 2007. She had been in the federal correctional system about 11 months and had been transferred 17 time, serving two stints at the Grand Valley site.

system until she "needlessly" died by her own hand in October 2007 while prison staff stood by and watched, Sapers told a press conference.

"I urge the federal, provincial and territorial

government to develop a national strategy to ensure better co-ordination among correctional and mental health systems nationwide," Sapers said.

"Simply and sadly put, if not for the glaring void of mental health services for children, youth and offenders in Canada, Ashley Smith would likely never have ended up in a federal penitentiary where she ended her life," he said.

Public Safety Minister Peter Van Loan said many changes have recently been made in the corrections system to respond to mental health challenges.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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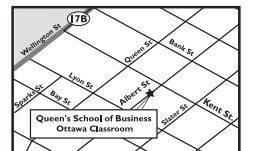


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A small aircraft operated by Manitoba's Perimeter Aviation made an emergency belly landing at Winnipeg's James Richardson International Airport at about 12:15 p.m. yesterday. The crew of the plane reported trouble with aircraft's landing gear. **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

News in brief

REPORT Fishing crews continue to put themselves at risk by heading out to sea in small, unstable boats, the Transportation Safety Board said

yesterday in two accident reports that highlight ongoing regulatory deficiencies and the industry's weak "safety culture." **CBC NEWS ONLINE**

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Super 7 swept aside for new national lottery

Game will have 'more millionaires than ever before:' Spokesperson

It is only 15 but Lotto Super 7 is ready for retirement.

A new and yet-to-be-named game is waiting in the wings, the Ontario Lottery and Gaming Commission announced yesterday.

The new national lottery will include "big jackpots and more millionaires than ever before," said spokesperson Rui Brum.

The final Super 7 drawing will be Sept. 18. If no one has all seven numbers, the final jackpot will

Serious money

• The Super 7's biggest-ever jackpot was \$37.8 million on May 17, 2002. It was split four ways. The Super 7's main competitor, Lotto 6/49, has had larger jackpots.

be split among the holders of tickets with six numbers.

The new game will begin the following Friday.

Brum said the change comes after the Inter-

provincial Lottery Corp. interviewed more than 20,000 lottery players to find out what they wanted. "They were asking for big jackpots and more millionaires."

The troubled economy did not factor into the decision. "No, not at all," he said. "We find that the prime determinate for player participation in the lottery is the jackpot size."

Brum says bigger jackpots will not make the game harder to win. "The odds are always the same, no matter what the jack-

pot is," he said. But he would not say how the OLG planned to make the jackpots bigger.

Since Super 7 was launched in June 1994, it has generated sales of \$11.44 billion, with players winning \$6.73 billion.

Brum said the response to yesterday's announcement has been positive so far. "There's been a lot of excitement," he said. "We've gotten a lot of calls. People are curious to see what the details of the game will be."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Abused Quebec poodle thriving with new owners

PETS He's the dog that shouldn't have survived.

But Michou, the charcoal and white miniature poodle with the dark, trusting eyes, locked inside a vehicle for 19 days in the freezing January cold without

food or water, not only survived, but is thriving with new owners, an animal control officer involved in the case says.

Michou lost more than half his body weight as he sat starving and dehydrat-

ed in the freezing cold and was near death inside the Eurovan of his Quebec owner, who had flown off from the Burlington, Vt., international airport.

After being rescued, he was able to pull through,

and for that reason people in Vermont have called him the "miracle dog."

The 12-year-old dog is gaining weight has been adopted by a foster couple who took him in after his ordeal. **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

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Weight-loss surgery beats diabetes: Study

The most common form of diabetes disappears in nearly 80 per cent of obese diabetics after weight-loss surgery, researchers said yesterday. **REUTERS**

World

Clinton still sees Palestinian state

No other way to end bloodshed, U.S. says

A Palestinian state, Hillary Clinton said yesterday, is in Israel's best interests.

Many Israelis, not least supporters of the likely incoming government, do not see it that way. And many Palestinians are giving up hope that continuing the U.S.-backed "peace process" can deliver them the independent state Clinton is talking about.

On her first visit to Jerusalem as U.S. secretary of state, Clinton's assertion that "a two-state solution is inescapable" was pointed. Incoming prime minister Benjamin Netanyahu is strenuously avoiding committing to a Palestinian

"The headline of 'two states for two peoples' may have to be interpreted in different ways."

Zalman Shoval, Likud

state as he tries to form a ruling coalition.

Her comments reflect near-unanimity among western diplomats that there is no other way out of 60-odd years of bloodshed.

Netanyahu is not opposed to Palestinian statehood, but says it should have limited sovereignty

and not be the guaranteed outcome of negotiations. The formulation "two states for two peoples," used by Israeli, Palestinian and U.S. leaders who relaunched talks at Annapolis in 2007 is not one he favours.

"The headline of 'two states for two peoples' may have to be interpreted in different ways," said Zalman Shoval, foreign relations chief of Likud.

"Whether at the end of the day it's called a Palestinian state, or a state with limited sovereignty ... that is something that will have to come out of the negotiations," Shoval said. **REUTERS**

New York City Citizens welcome U2 Way



Members of rock band U2, Adam Clayton, second from right, Bono, centre, and Edge, second from left, hold street signs next to New York Mayor Michael Bloomberg, right, and city council Speaker Christine Quinn after a portion of West 53rd Street was renamed U2 Way in New York yesterday. U2's new album No Line on the Horizon was released yesterday.

News in brief

MEXICO Hundreds of heavily armed soldiers fanned out across Mexico's bloodiest drug war city of Ciudad Juarez yesterday, trying to prevent a collapse in law and order just south of the U.S. border.

SRI LANKA Troops yesterday seized the last road junction held by the Tamil Tigers, and now have about three kilometres left to capture before reaching a final showdown in the 25-year-old Sri Lankan war, the military said. **REUTERS**

Pakistani police seek cricket team's attackers

AMBUSH Pakistani police hunted for gunmen who mounted the bold attack on Sri Lanka's cricket team in Lahore yesterday and officials scrambled to figure out who was behind it.

The attack that killed eight people, six of them Pakistani police, plunged Pakistan into a "state of war," Rehman Malik, the prime minister's interior

adviser, said.

Six members of the Sri Lankan team and a British coach were wounded in the daylight attack as their bus approached the cricket stadium.

None was so seriously hurt they had to be left behind when the squad departed for Colombo yesterday night. **REUTERS**

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Court rejects tycoon's pleas

Russian oligarch charged with embezzling \$25B US

A Moscow court refused a request by lawyers defending fallen Russian oligarch Mikhail Khodorkovsky to change the prosecutors at the start of his trial on fresh charges of embezzling \$25 billion US yesterday.

The fate of Khodorkovsky, 45, an oil tycoon who fell foul of the Kremlin under former president Vladimir Putin and was jailed in Siberia for tax evasion and fraud, is being watched for any signs of a milder tone under Putin's successor Dmitry Medvedev.

The court also rejected

Background

- Mikhail Khodorkovsky says he is the victim of corrupt officials who feared his political ambitions and wanted to carve up his YUKOS business empire, which produced more oil than OPEC member Qatar.

Khodorkovsky's requests to be freed from an "inhuman" glass-walled cage where he sat yesterday to face the new charges, which could add another 22 years to his current eight-year sentence. REUTERS

San Francisco Penn pushes 'Harvey Milk Day'



Academy Award-winning actor Sean Penn walks past people carrying signs as he departs a news conference in San Francisco, Calif., yesterday. Penn, who won an Oscar for his role in the film Milk, is supporting state legislation to proclaim May 22 as "Harvey Milk Day," in honour of former San Francisco city supervisor Harvey Milk, an openly gay politician who was murdered in 1978.

Merkel ally found guilty for role in skiing death

COURT An Austrian court yesterday found a German state premier and key ally of Chancellor Angela Merkel guilty of involuntary manslaughter for his role in a fatal ski accident and fined him 33,000 euros (\$54,000).

Dieter Althaus, conservative premier of the eastern state of Thuringia, crashed into a woman on a ski slope in Austria's Styria region on New Year's Day. The woman, Beata Christandl, 41, later died.

Althaus, who was severely injured in the accident, is a popular conservative politician and one of Merkel's closest allies in eastern Germany.

He is facing a regional election in Thuringia on Aug. 30, just one month before Germany's federal election and Merkel's party has no high-profile alternatives to him in the state.

REUTERS

Japan cuts costs of 100th birthday cups

AGING Japan now has so many people over 100 that it is cutting costs by reducing the size of silver cups it presents to those who reach that age.

Holiday

- The cups are presented on Sept. 15, a holiday designated Respect for the Aged Day.

Last year 19,769 people reached triple figures in the world's most rapidly aging country,

compared with only 153 in 1963, the year when the cups were first presented.

The cost varies with the price of silver, but the Yomiuri newspaper said it was about 7,000 to 8,000 yen (\$93-106) apiece.

REUTERS

Study links TV to asthma in kids

HEALTH Young children who watch TV for more than two hours a day run the risk of developing asthma before their 12th birthday, according to a new study. Recent research has suggested that sedentary behaviour affects the way children breathe, perhaps sparking developmental changes in the lungs.

REUTERS

The minimum wage is going up.

If you're an employer, here's what you need to know.

	General Minimum Wage	Students under 18 and working not more than 28 hours per week or during a school holiday	Liquor Server	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for less than five consecutive hours in a day	Hunting & Fishing Guides: for five or more hours in a day whether or not the hours are consecutive	Homeworkers (people doing paid work in their home for an employer)
Current wage rate	\$8.75/hour	\$8.20/hour	\$7.60/hour	\$43.75	\$87.50	110% of the minimum wage
Mar. 31, 2009 wage rate	\$9.50/hour	\$8.90/hour	\$8.25/hour	\$47.50	\$95.00	110% of the minimum wage

On March 31, 2009, the general minimum wage will increase to \$9.50 per hour from the current rate of \$8.75 per hour.

To find out more about how the new minimum wage guidelines affect employers and employees, call or visit the Ministry of Labour web site.

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The one feel-good story

Aussie tourism contest helping to warm up a dreary winter

The WestView

Paul Sullivan

metronews.ca/thewestview

The news is pretty grim these days (that's an understatement), but if you haven't heard about The Best Job in The World, you're missing the one news story on the planet guaranteed to make you feel better and get you through the rest of this #\$\$^&*! winter of '09.

Back in January, someone in the Queensland Department of Tourism had an inspired idea. What if we start a job search for the best job in the world? And so they did, and they're not kidding. Based on all criteria and the Geneva Convention, this is the best job in the world.

It's a six-month contract for a "caretaker" for the Islands of the Great Barrier Reef.

The successful applicant basically plays tourist on some of the world's most beautiful tropical islands, is required to blog about their experience once a week, and gets paid the equivalent of about \$124,000 for the, um, task.

You're immediately tempted to ask, "what's the catch?" And those clever Aussies have that one listed in their website's FAQ, under "Is this a real job?" assuring visitors that yes, it is and no, there is no catch. Just apply, mate.

Sadly, while I was dreaming about refilling the towel dispensers on Daydream Island, just one of the 900 islands in the world's largest coral reef system, 34,684 real applicants got busy and sent in their applications, which include a one-minute video. So many people just wanted to bang on their

drum all day, they crashed the site.

Tourism Queensland has just announced the top 50 applicants and the lucky 50 and their videos are posted on www.islandreefjob.com. You can vote for your favourite, and the applicant with the most votes gets an interview along with 10 others selected by Tourism Queensland. It is a "real job," after all.

Of course, anyone can see through all this malarkey. It's just the most clever tourism promotion ever.

Of course, anyone can see through all this malarkey. It's just the most clever tourism promotion ever. And it doesn't hurt that it's the antidote to the worst winter in the worst economy in decades.

Maybe that's why such a disproportionate number of the final 50 are Canadians. Desperation breeds creativity. Three are from B.C., one is from Alberta and two are from Ontario.

Anny Chih of Vancouver gets big marks for her irre-

sistibly cute video, but Mitchell from Ontario is the Canadian to beat. He staged a musical job application on a busy downtown street with a cast of dozens that rivals the best of Broadway. Mamma Mia!

So most of us aren't going to get the job of island caretaker, but at least we can vote for our choice. Maybe they'll send us a sack of sand in gratitude. We better roll up our sleeves, though, because Mitchell's currently in second place behind Julia, the Russian Bond girl, who is way out in the lead with 4005 votes and counting.

Then again, maybe you'd consider a write-in campaign for me, your favourite columnist.

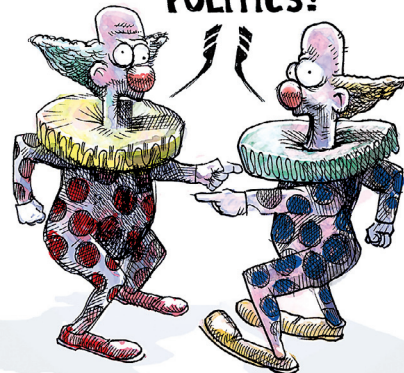
Paul Sullivan is a Vancouver-based journalist and owner of Sullivan Media Consulting; vancouverletters@metronews.ca.

VideoOnline

Check out one of the video applications online at metronews.ca/thewestview

LEADERSHIP IN AN ERA OF ECONOMIC UNCERTAINTY:

HE'S PLAYING POLITICS!



After metro

Metro Online Poll Results

29% SAID YES

Do you think the Mounties who confronted Robert Dziekanski acted appropriately?

71% SAID NO

Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca

Worth mentioning

U.S. scientists no longer endangered

ENVIRONMENT U.S. President Barack Obama yesterday directed U.S. government agencies to consult with scientists before taking action that could harm endangered species, rolling back last-minute rules put forward by former President George W. Bush.

Obama, a Democrat who has spent much of his first six weeks in office undoing policies of his Republican predecessor, signed a memo urging agencies such as the Department of Transportation to consult with government scientists before pursuing projects that could hurt threatened animals.

"Today I've signed a memorandum that will help restore the scientific process to its rightful place at the heart of the Endan-

gered Species Act, a process undermined by past administrations," Obama said to applause.

"The work of scientists and experts in my administration ... will be respected. For more than three decades, the Endangered Species Act has successfully protected our nation's most threatened wildlife, and we should be looking for ways to improve it — not weaken it."

Representative Edward Markey of Massachusetts, who chairs a Congressional committee on energy independence and global warming, welcomed the move.

"Today proves that, under an Obama administration, scientists are no longer an endangered species," he said in a statement.

REUTERS



Barack Obama

Word on the street: Aside from your mother, who is the most influential woman in your life?

Robert Talbot

age 27, Ottawa

A: My wife, because she's a very intelligent person and helps me make decisions when I'm sitting on the fence.



Desiree Leaman

age 20, visiting from Fredericton

A: My kindergarten teacher, Mrs. Dwyer. I was really shy and had trouble mingling. I thank her for me becoming the outgoing person I am today.



William McArthur

age 20, Ottawa

A: My 12th grade exercise science teacher. She influenced me because I'm taking kinesiology in university now.



Clementine Iweh

age 44, Vancouver

A: My choice is Oprah. She's an inspirational lady and touches everybody from various ethnic groups and she's a philanthropist.



Tara Town

age 23, Toronto

A: My best friend ... We grew up together and ... she just knows me a lot more than all the other friends.



Nikki Kimmel

age 19, Calgary

A: Helen Keller. She just had to battle so much and had so much willpower.



It's your turn to tell others what you think. Email your thoughts and opinions to: ottawaletters@metronews.ca


Letters must include sender's full name, address and phone number — street name and phone numbers will NOT be published. We reserve the right to edit letters.

Former Hewlett-Packard co-chief executive and high-profile Republican Carly Fiorina had breast cancer surgery on Monday and hopes to be recovered and active in a matter of months. HP's poor performance forced her exit in 2005. **REUTERS**

Business

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

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Banks remain profitable

Canada's banks remained profitable even as the global financial crisis deepened, but results from two big players show bad loans on the upswing.

Bank of Nova Scotia, Canada's third-largest lender, reported weaker earnings per share yesterday as provisions for bad loans more than doubled and its payout of preferred share

Bank of Canada cuts key rate

The Bank of Canada cut its main interest rate to a record low yesterday and signaled it may take extra steps to pump money into a system that remains stubbornly short of credit. The bank reduced its key overnight rate by a half point to 0.5 per cent.

dividends rose.

Bank of Montreal, the No. 5 lender, reported a 12 per cent fall in net income, hurt by charges tied to

volatile capital markets and an 86 per cent jump in provisions for credit losses.

"Although the core results are doing fine, we

have a continued deterioration of credit quality, which is going to be the focus of the market going forward," said John Aiken, an analyst at Dundee Capital Markets.

"(Earnings) more than likely are going to stay positive, but they're going to be lower than where we stand today because of credit losses." **REUTERS**

U.S. had 'no choice' but to rescue AIG

BAILOUT U.S. Federal Reserve chairman Ben Bernanke yesterday defended the government's latest bailout of embattled insurer AIG, telling irate lawmakers that he was also angry, but that the failure to act could have triggered an economic disaster.

Pressed by a Senate committee to justify the latest in an expanding series of bailouts for American International Group, Bernanke said there was no alternative, even though the company had been irresponsible.

"We know that failure of major financial firms in a financial crisis can be disastrous for the economy. We really had no choice," he told the panel.

REUTERS

Hot car Z-one makes its debut



A model poses in front of a Z-one car by South African producer Perana designed by Italian design company Zagato at the 79th Geneva Car Show at the Palexpo in Geneva yesterday.

Business in brief

MADOFF New York lawyer Irving Picard, a court-appointed trustee in the case against Bernard Madoff, has asked a judge if he may take over ownership of the accused

swindler's firm, an associated trading firm, property, artwork and corporate entertainment tickets as part of efforts to recover assets for Madoff's customers. **REUTERS**

Vale Inco cutting 423 Canadian jobs

MINING Toronto-based Vale Inco, the nickel mining and processing division of Brazil's Companhia Vale do Rio Doce, said yesterday it will eliminate about 900 full-time jobs in the face of slumping prices, with 423 of the cuts at its Canadian operations. **REUTERS**

Magna unit faces TSX delisting

STOCKS Shares of Magna Entertainment will be delisted from the Toronto Stock Exchange as of April 1, the besieged horse racing and gaming company said yesterday, after it failed to meet the exchange's continued listing requirements.

Its shares were at 35 cents on the TSX yesterday. **REUTERS**

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Avery back on Broadway

Sean Avery's return to the NHL was finalized yesterday, as the New York Rangers finally claimed him off re-entry waivers from the Dallas Stars **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

9

Sports



"Don Cherry is like Rush Limbaugh and President Obama is in office ... Change has come. It is like oxygen, get used to it."

Washington Capitals owner Ted Leonsis, left, reacting on his blog, www.tedstake.com, to comments Cherry made saying Alex Ovechkin celebrates too much after scoring. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

He's been everywhere

PERRY LEFKO
for Metro Canada



New York Islanders' forward Mike Sillinger has played 18 years in the National Hockey League and has more than 1,000 games to his credit, but he is known mostly for the number of times he's been traded.

Sillinger, who has missed most of this season because of his second hip operation in two seasons, has played for an NHL record 12 teams.

He has been traded nine times — an NHL record he shares with Brent Ashton — including five times on deadline day. Along the way has been nicknamed Suitcase, something he's come to accept.

"I just kind of chuckle

about it," he said in a phone interview in advance of this year's trade deadline today.

"I'm very proud to have played 18 years in the National Hockey League. It's been an honour and a privilege to play as long as I have ... call me what you want because there's a lot of people out there that would want to be in my shoes."

A first-round draft pick of Detroit in 1989 after a four-year junior career with the Regina Pats of the Western Hockey League,

Sillinger experienced his first trade midway through the '94-95 season when dealt to Anaheim. Since then he has played with Vancouver, Philadelphia, Tampa, Florida, Ottawa, Columbus, Phoenix, St. Louis,

Nashville and the Islanders.

In some cases, he happened to be traded from a non-playoff team to a playoff team, only to have it work out the wrong way.

"I've had a lot of first-round exits," he laughed.

Sillinger said there are pros and cons to being traded.

"Regardless of whether you're having a good year or a bad year, you have to be positive with it," he said.

"You can't sit there and hang your head. You have to look at it as a fresh start and a chance to move forward. It's a chance to say another

team wants you.

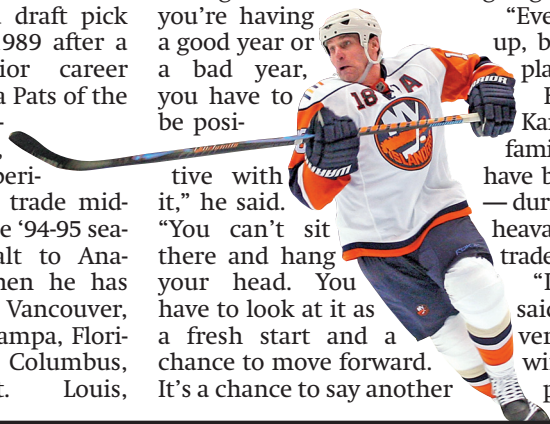
"The worst thing is just picking up and leaving all the friends you have on the team and the neighbours you meet. You just kind of pick up and leave your wife and kids behind.

"That's kind of the saddest thing because you're not quite sure when you're going to see them again.

"Eventually you'll hook up, but that all has to be planned."

He credits his wife, Karla, for keeping the family together — they have boys aged 11, 8 and 5 — during the numerous upheavals caused by the trades.

"It's a whirlwind," he said. "I'm thankful for a very understanding wife. She's the calming person in the family."



Senators Burned by Flames



The Flames' David Moss hits Ottawa's Christoph Schubert to the ice last night. Calgary won 6-3.

BLAIR CABLE/REUTERS

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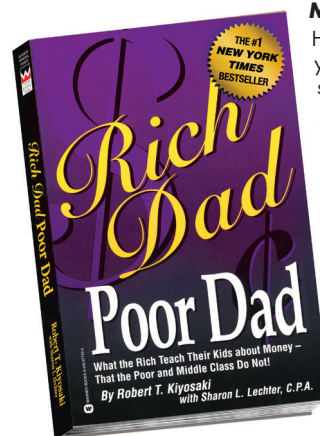
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Metro Drive

EDITOR: KUMAR SAHA, KUMAR.SAHA@METRONEWS.CA

Ford growing green

Fusion Hybrid's a handsome, eco-friendly machine

JIL MCINTOSH
for Metro Canada



My Ford Fusion is sprouting leaves. The gauge starts with a branch, and as I drive along with my foot as light as possible on the throttle, the greenery starts to grow. Eventually, I'm rewarded with a forest for my fuel-miserly method.

Naturally, this is no ordinary Fusion. Ford's midsize sedan is overhauled for 2010, with all receiving new engines and six-speed automatic transmissions. My ride, the Fusion Hybrid, is the first time it's been offered as a gasoline-electric hybrid.

It uses a 2.5 L four-cylinder engine with electric motor, nickel hydride (NiMH) battery pack, and a continuously variable transmission (CVT). The combination produces 155 horsepower and 136 lb-ft of torque.

It's a "full" hybrid and can run on electricity alone, something its only domestic competitor, the Chevrolet Malibu/Saturn Aura Hybrid, cannot. Ford says it'll stay on battery power alone at speeds up to 75 km/h. As with every current factory



The 2010 Fusion Hybrid is the first time the model's been offered as a gasoline-electric hybrid.

hybrid, the Fusion Hybrid doesn't get plugged in, but uses energy from braking to recharge the battery.

Although the Hybrid's exterior doesn't look any different from its conventional siblings, the instrument cluster contains Ford's new "SmartGauge," including a system it calls EcoGuide. Two LCD screens on either side of the speedometer are configurable through wheel-mounted buttons to four levels. Each adds information, starting with the simplest display of fuel and battery charge status; from

there, you can add items such as a gauge to show when the car's running on electricity, power consumption from accessories, power output, and the foliage feature. It's gimmicky, but it's fun: Drive more economically, and the branches sprout more leaves, while a lead foot makes them fall off.

The gauge I found most useful was the engine threshold, which shows how close the car is to switching to either gasoline or electricity. You can't manually control it, in that

there's no button to go back or forth; rather, the system determines it by how much power is required. Knowing how close you are to the threshold lets you adjust your driving for maximum efficiency.

A hybrid has to work as a driving machine too, and for that, Ford's done a very good job. The switch from gasoline to electric is seamless, and the car is very quiet. Steering is responsive, highway performance is fine, and when needed, it's very peppy and has power for highway passing.

The new styling is handsome, and the interior is a considerable improvement over the outgoing model in quality of materials and workmanship. Expect this one to do well for itself when it arrives in Canada.

Prius tops again

Despite the arrival of more gasoline/electric hybrids, the Toyota Prius took Consumer Reports' top "green" award for the sixth straight year, Canadian Driver reports. Other 2009 top picks included Hyundai Elantra SE for small sedan and Toyota RAV4 for small SUV.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Shopping best for insurance: Experts

Riding the Recession

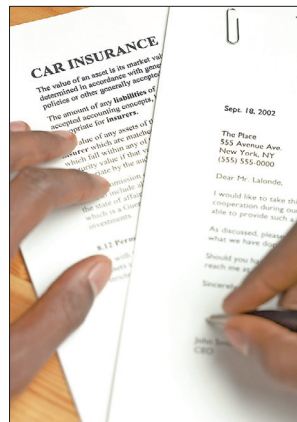
MARK ATKINSON
for Metro Canada



Vehicle insurance can be one of the most expensive portions of your yearly budget, and one of the most frustrating to understand. Since it's mandatory to have insurance in order to drive a vehicle anywhere in Canada, there are a few things we can do to change our situation, both for new car buyers and existing owners. While it may only end up being a savings of \$50, in these touchy economic times, that \$50 can go a long way.

Andrew Wicken, general manager of InsuranceHotline.com, says that shopping around is the easiest way to try and save money. The services provided at InsuranceHotline.com include the option to compare up to 30 different quotes from various insurance companies across Canada.

"While the coverage itself remains the same, the difference comes from how those companies internally deal with risk and other factors," Wicken said. Companies could have hugely varying rates depending on which customer type they're trying to attract and what other promotions they might



Companies could have hugely varying car insurance rates.

have running.

David Hackett, of Markham, Ont.-based Buckley Insurance believes that when it comes to factors directly influencing the quote, things like location and vehicle type perhaps are the most obvious ones, although being a better driver certainly helps as well.

"Keep a clean driving record," he said. "Seeing the number of tickets and charges on your licence is extremely easy for an insurance company to do nowadays, and that usually leads to higher rates."

AutoPilot

Michael Goetz

Read at
metronews.ca/autopilot

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Beating the recession

The Bimbo Gami shrine, about four hours' drive from Tokyo, lets visitors shake off their financial doldrums by hitting a wooden statue representing the God of Poverty. Visitors can beat, kick and throw dried beans at the god to vent their anger. **REUTERS**

11

Travel



Is he kidding?

Michael O'Leary, the CEO of budget airline Ryanair, has caused a minor furore by musing that passengers may soon have to pay to use on-board washrooms. But since O'Leary is also well-known for his PR-generating abilities, no one's sure yet whether he's joking.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

TRAVELDESK@METRONEWS.CA

Cooking up a storm in Turkey

TheTravelJunkie

Julia Dimon

metronews.ca/traveljunkie

Mardin is a charming town in the Turkish region of southeastern Anatolia. Located high above the Tigris-Euphrates river basins, it's rich with religious tradition, historical significance and ancient sandstone architecture.

It's also home to tasty local snacks, from pomegranate salads to stuffed tripe to grape-syrup kebabs. Blending Turkish and Syrian flavours, Mardin fusion cuisine made for meals unlike anything I'd tried in other parts of the country.

Likewise, the celebrated Mardin eatery Cercis Murat Konagi isn't your typical Turkish restaurant. Overlooking the vast expanse of the scorching Mesopotamian plain, this former Armenian mansion dating back to the 1800s not only serves succulent Turkish cuisine, it also offers hands-on cooking courses for tourists.

Cercis Murat's four-hour cooking class began with a trip to market. Ebru Baydemir, a local celebrity entrepreneur known as the first female restaurateur in eastern Anatolia, took me to a lively commercial center, where vendors hawked ripe, colorful vegetables.

On the hunt for ingredients, side-stepping the occasional donkey, we carefully selected a handful of deep purple eggplants, blood-red



Ebru Baydemir, owner of Cercis Murat, is a famous female entrepreneur in eastern Anatolia.

tomatoes, eye-watering onions and warm flatbreads. Supplies in hand, we returned to the kitchen, slipped on cloth hairnets, tied our aprons and got cooking.

Ebru told me that classes and meals can be customized according to tourists' interests but that icli kofte — fried, stuffed meatballs — is a classic dish. I followed her tutelage and got my hands dirty.

Wrist deep in cracked wheat, onion, mince and allspice, I shaped the falafel-like shells into egg-sized balls and plopped them into a skillet of searing hot oil. The fragrant smell of onion and steaming mince filled the kitchen, a good indication of the gastronomical delights yet to come.

Stirring, mixing, chopping and dicing, I learned cooking techniques from a crew of female chefs. In this region of Turkey, women don't traditionally work outside of the home but Ebru has broken new ground, giving local women a chance at employment.

The restaurant has be-

Mardin

How to get there: Turkish Airlines offers daily, direct two-hour flights from Istanbul to Mardin; see thy.com.

Where to stay: Erdoba Konaklari is a charming boutique hotel in the heart of the old town. The historic mansion has wide stone terraces and rooms overlooking Mesopotamia; see erdoba.com.tr.

Where to eat: For more information about the Cercis Murat cooking school, visit cercismurat.com and click

on "translate this" to see the English version.

Places to visit:

- Sultan Isa Medresesi, the town's architectural highlight.
- Bazaar along Cumhuriyet Caddesi for some unique bargain shopping.
- Mardin Castle, a natural rock structure turned fortification.
- Mardin Museum for a look at 7th Century BC Assyrian pottery.

JULIA DIMON/
FOR METRO CANADA

come so popular that it's won several awards for best views and has even attracted the attention of Prince Charles, who visited there with his royal entourage in 2004 for a private function.

As my kofte cooled, I was ready to dive into my next dish, Patlicanli pilav, a type of upside-down casserole made with lamb, chickpeas, onions, rice, eggplant and lots of cinnamon.

No doubt, the best part of a cooking class is eating your homework. Sitting at a

rectangular table adorned with elegant silver cutlery and crisply folded napkins, I chowed down a delicious home-cooked feast.

Fingers drizzling with lamb juice, the chefs (and my taste buds) agreed that the meal was a success. It was worth the charge of 100 lira (about \$75 Cdn), a fee that includes a trip to the market, all the ingredients and lessons.

Julia Dimon is co-host of Word Travels, airing Sundays at 8:30 p.m. EST on OLN; juliadimon.com.

Wave of hip Lisbon hostels reinvents backpacker digs

PORTUGAL Squeaky clean, elegant and well-located, a young crop of Lisbon hostels is reinventing the concept of a backpacker's inn, luring guests of all ages in these difficult times and sweeping the industry's own Oscars.

Dublin-based hostelworld.com recently named Portugal's capital the top location for hostels in the world in its Hostelworld Customer Annual Ratings, or Hoscars. Three Lisbon establishments were picked as No. 1 through No. 3 among 20,000 properties worldwide, and a fourth ranked in the top 10.

"There has been an explosion of hostels in Lisbon for the past year and a half."

Aisling White

The ratings are based on 800,000 travellers' reviews. "There has been an explosion of hostels in Lisbon for the past year and a half and the quality of the hostels has been extraordinary," said Aisling White, marketing manager with Web Reservations International, Hostelworld's parent company.

"They really lead the way in an ongoing change of the image and standard of a hostel."

Located in Lisbon's tourist-crammed downtown Baixa area, they are

not far from the Tagus River and surrounded by historic monuments and dozens of typical pastry shops. These hostels are worlds away from the dirt-cheap, and often grimy student hostels dotting the dodgy outskirts of many European cities.

Cosy, brightly decorated chill out rooms with flat TV screens and free Internet would make many boutique hotels envious.

Bathrooms are impeccably clean and dorms with bunk beds are far from barracks-ugly. Dorms for up to eight people and a common bathroom are still typical of a hostel, although many also feature double rooms, making them more attractive for couples.

During the global crisis, hostels become an attractive alternative, with a bed and breakfast to the tune of 18 euros, while a hotel room in the same part of town would top 70 euros.

"We can't complain about a lack of bookings, especially for double rooms. We are not really feeling the crisis, it's the same as a year ago," said Valter Pratas, co-owner of the Lisbon Lounge Hostel.

REUTERS

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Entertainment

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Dress no Runway original

RAFAEL BRUSILOV
for Metro Canada

Toronto designer Jeff MacKinnon's last-minute designs finally ran out of steam and he was sent home from Project Runway Canada last night.

Last night's challenge gave designers a chance at national exposure by having their dress become the first ever original design to be sold by clothing retailer Winners at select stores across Canada. Designers had to create the perfect spring dress which could be worn both during the day and into the evening.

The judges felt MacKinnon's simple, white reversible dress wasn't innovative enough and wouldn't stand out to customers, making him the sixth designer booted off the show.

MacKinnon, 41, had already survived elimination a few weeks before and frequently seemed to struggle with the short time frame given to create designs.

"The time constraints were the toughest part of the show. I'm very meticulous and it was difficult for me to just get the job done," MacKinnon said.

Used to doing painstaking custom work for clients over a period of weeks instead of banging out gar-



Jeff MacKinnon was kicked off Project Runway Canada.

ments in 48 hours, MacKinnon was often forced to resort to shortcuts. Among one of MacKinnon's desperate moves was using glue to patch fabric strips onto several dresses, something he would never do in normal conditions.

"Desperate times call for desperate measures, but we were all doing stuff like that. A lot of people were using glue, a lot of people were using tape," MacKinnon said.

Stretched to the limit in last night's challenge, MacKinnon went as far as to draw on apparent hand-stitching with a marker to get his dress in on time. While judges didn't catch the snafu in the first judging panel, he voluntarily admitted during the call-back that he drew the stitching on. The admission didn't affect the judges outcome since they had already decided to send him home but MacKinnon felt relieved to come clean regardless.

"I have an enormous amount of integrity and I wanted to walk out of there with my integrity," MacKinnon said.

No ordinary comic

New Watchmen film ventures into grim territory

CHRIS ALEXANDER
for Metro Canada

This Friday, there is no doubt going to be a fair chunk of Metro readers that drop their hard earned duckets and file in to their local multiplex to see the latest Day-Glo pop pulp comic book blockbuster, the heavily hyped and mass merchandised epic Watchmen.

But before you do friends, you'd be wise to take a moment and read the following passages, a primer to the most anticipated film of the year thus far.

First of all dear readers, be aware that this is not your daddy's brand of superhero saga and those expecting the movie to be in line with the PG rated likes of Spider-Man or X-Men should give their collective heads a shake.

Based on the beloved cult graphic novel by cantankerous British visionary Alan Moore, Watchmen ventures into the very essence of grim and takes few prisoners. The emotionally disturbed, semi-retired, latex-wearing crusaders who populate the picture are the opposite of heroic, they're anti-heroes straight out of the most nihilistic film noir and their helpful attempts to save lives don't always end well.

As directed by Zack Sny-



The emotionally disturbed, semi-retired, latex-wearing crusaders who populate Watchmen are the opposite of heroic, they're anti-heroes straight out of the most nihilistic film noir.

Movie feature

der, the guy who splashed buckets of blood over the rock hard abs of the screaming Spartans in 300, and who two years prior to that unleashed a cannibalistic zombie apocalypse in his remake of Dawn of the Dead, the film is also one of the most brutally violent pictures of the year, littered with broken bodies and spraying arteries of

every persuasion.

Violence isn't the only thing that sets Watchmen apart, the film is also graphically sexual to boot. If you've ever fantasized about Bat Girl hooking up with Captain America, then this movie is for you. If not, well, you've been warned.

But perhaps most importantly, Watchmen is incredibly sophisticated entertainment, as intellectually and morally challenging as

it is visceral and erotic. It asks its audience some pointed questions about the world they live in and refuses to pander to shrinking violet sensibilities.

So if you plan to see it, eat your greens, rest up and bring the biggest cup of caffeine you can fit into your cupholder (the film is almost three hours long) because Watchmen takes its pen and ink origins very seriously and expects its audience to do the same.

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Boyle offered Bond directing role

Danny Boyle has apparently been offered the opportunity to direct the next James Bond movie. The Oscar winner could take on the 23rd film in the 007 franchise after impressing Barbara Broccoli — the head of the Bond franchise at EON — The Sun reports. [ANANOVA.COM](#)



Spinal Tap get serious

Comedy trio to perform a 30-city North American tour

It's no joke. The comedic trio behind Spinal Tap are hitting the road for a 30-city North American tour next month, and are leaving their heavy-metal guises at home.

Christopher Guest, Michael McKean and Harry Shearer — accomplished musicians who have been playing together since 1978 — said on Monday they will perform music from their Spinal Tap days as well as from subsequent film collaborations like the folk-music spoof A Mighty Wind.

They performed a few songs and took questions during a news conference held on the 25th anniversary of the release of the influential mockumentary This Is Spinal Tap, in which the Americans played deluded English headbangers.

The cult hit spoofed situations that have rung eerily true for real-life bands, such as getting lost while trying to make their way to the stage, being confounded by malevolent stage props, or dealing with problematic drummers.

The film also popularized phrases such as turning the volume "up to 11." And when artists explain away their waning popularity by saying that "their appeal is becoming more selective," it's an inadvertent quote from the movie.

"It's a cautionary tale that we don't intend anyone to

pay heed to," said McKean, who played vocalist David St. Hubbins. "If you're a young guy or gal and you want to be in a rock 'n' roll band, see this movie but do it anyway."

But musicians might want to pay heed to one small factoid: The trio never made a dime from the Rob Reiner-directed movie, their manager Harriet Sternberg

new album

- Spinal Tap's as-yet-untitled album, bolstered by seven or eight unheard tracks, will be released on May 26.

REUTERS

told Reuters.

The film, originally funded by TV producer Nor-

man Lear at a cost of \$2.5 million, has changed hands at least half a dozen times, and is now owned by French firm StudioCanal. Sternberg said no attempt has been made to recover any royalty income.

The trio's Unwiggled & Unplugged theater tour begins on April 17 in Vancouver, B.C., and runs through May 31 in Milwaukee.

REUTERS



Members of Spinal Tap musicians and comedians (left to right) Christopher Guest, Michael McKean and Harry Shearer.

critics' corner

Gary Unmarried

Under ordinary circumstances, Gary (Jay Mohr) rarely lets ex-wife Allison's (Paula Marshall) fiancé, Dr. Krandall (Ed Begley Jr.), ruffle his feathers, but he's plenty concerned when he notices how much time Krandall is spending with Gary's teenage son, Tom (Ryan Malgarini), and vows to bond more strongly with the boy himself. Jaime King and Kathryn Newton co-star in the new episode "Gary Toughens Up Tom." 8:30 PM on 13 CBS



Being Erica

It's back to school again for Erica (Erin Karpluk). When she has trouble figuring out her feelings for Ryan (Dillon Casey), Dr. Tom (Michael Riley) sends her back to relive a relationship from her university days — a very unusual relationship that may give her some clues. Reagan Pasternak, Tyron Leitso and Devon Bostick also star in the new episode "Everything She Wants." 9 PM on 8 CBC

In brief

MUSIC Prince has found an outlet for his latest collection of songs, recorded without a major label, by partnering with Target for a three-disc set, the retail chain said on Monday. The album, a three-disc set, will be available at Target stores on March 29 for \$11.98.



Prince

REUTERS

OT	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
3/4/09	265	353	2	TVO	Great Natural Wonders	The Agenda With Steve Paikin	Little Dorrit (N)	The View From Here "I, Curmudgeon"				
	211	331	3	ETV	ET Canada	Entertainment	Lie to Me "Unchained"	(10:02) Life on Mars	News (N)			
	-	-	5	SRC	Virginie (SC)	L'Épicerie	Les Invincibles (SC)	Le Téléjournal et Les Nou	La Zone			
	209	342	6	CHRO	Lost "LaFleur" (N)	America's Next Top Model (Season Premiere) (N)	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	Law & Order (HDTV)	News (N)			
	196	311	7	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	American Idol	CSI: NY "Turbulence"	News (N)			
	208	303	8	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	The Week the Women Went	Being Erica (N) (DVS)	CBC News: The National	The Hour		
	-	360	9	NBC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Knight Rider (HDTV) (N)	Life "Jackpot" (HDTV)	Law & Order (HDTV)	News (N)		
	117	713	10	TVA	Poule-oeufs or	Star Académie:	Destinées (HDTV) (SC)	Domages et intérêts (SC)	TVA 22 heures (10:45) Denis Lévesque			
	-	-	11	QS	450 chemin	Rire et délire	Wipeout (SC)	Bob Gratton	Bob Gratton	Cent dix pour cent (SC)	Msr Showbiz	
	137	763	12	TFO	Panorama	Destination Nor'Ouest (SC)	(8:59) En attendant le bonheur *** (2002, Drame)	CSI: NY "Turbulence"	Two/Half Men			
news	-	362	13	CBS	Dr. Phil (HDTV) (N)	Old Christine	Gary Unmarr	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY "Turbulence"	Two/Half Men		
	216	395	14	OMN2	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)	News (N)	Two/Half Men	King	Cold Case	
	214	344	15	CITY	Law & Order: SVU	Friends	Friends	Nip/Tuck (HDTV)	Murdoch Mysteries			
	115	343	16	CFMT	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)	Vivere II	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia	
	218	345	18	EI	The Insider (N)	EI News	Knight Rider (HDTV) (N)	Party Monsters: Cabo	Missy Elliott: True Story			
	-	361	20	ABC	News (N)	Entertainment	Lost (HDTV)	Lost "LaFleur" (N)	(10:02) Life on Mars			
	512	396	24	CPAC	La Période de questions	Heure polit.	L'Heure politique			Revue	Période-quest.	
	651	355	25	CTS	Happy Days	Laverne	Michael Coren Show	100 Huntley Street	Life Today	This Is Day	John Hagee	
	-	365	36	FOX	TMZ (N)	Seinfeld	American Idol	Lie to Me "Unchained"	News (N)			
	-	-	64	PBS	Business Rpt.	Drum TV	Great Performances A concert based on "South Pacific."	Ani DiFranco Live at Babeville				
sports	205	312	104	CTV	Hollywood	etalk	American Idol	Criminal Minds (HDTV)	CSI: NY "Turbulence"	News (N)		
	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour	CBC News: The National	Tropic of Capricorn	National		
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight	Campbell Brown: No Bias	Larry King Live	Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)				
	406	417	27	net	PartyPoker.net World Open IV	World Combat League	The Ultimate Fighter	Sportsnet Connected	Hockey Central			
	126	730	28	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes	Grands reportages (SC)	Le Téléjournal (SC)	RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal		
	400	280	30	TSN	That's Hockey!	NHL Hockey Montreal Canadiens at Buffalo Sabres. (HDTV) (Live)	Aussie Millions '09	Score Tonight	Hockey Talk			
	410	403	52	SCR	College Basketball North Carolina at Virginia Tech. (Live)							
	411	457	56	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman	Mantracker	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman	
	417	406	59	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	Pinks Outtakes	Pinks (HDTV)	Drag Race	Wrecked	Pimp My Ride	
	554	544	48	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	Futurama	American Dad	Robot Chicken	Father of Pride	Moral Orel
family	557	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
	551	542	65	YTV	In Real Life (N)		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	Adrenaline Proj	Prank Patrol	Falcon Beach	Mystery Hnt.
	570	580	29	MM	mmmtop	MusicProfile	Where You At	Revival	20 Greatest Celebreality Fight	Confessions of a Teen Idol	Revival	
	615	520	31	A&E	CSI: Miami (HDTV)	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Exterminators	Exterminators	
	628	584	32	SPKE	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	CSI: Crime Scene Invstgtn.	UFC's Ultimate Fight Night					
	521	560	34	TLC	Untold Stories of the E.R.	My Shocking Story	A New Face For Marlie	Mystery Diagnosis				
	145	761	35	TV5	Humanima	Mixeur	Tel père, telle fille (2006, Com. dramatique)	Etoile	Peur	Voyageur	Journal TV5	
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits	Cashing In	About a Girl	The Guard (HDTV)	Big Love (HDTV)			
	620	523	40	BVO	The Achievers	Landscape	Arts & Minds	Bravo!Videos	Wingfield	Wingfield	Death at-Opera	Broadway
	520	505	42	DIS	Daily Planet (N)		Austin Stevens Adventures (N)	Deadliest Catch	Mayday "Falling From the Sky"			
cable variety	575	583	43	CMT	CMT's Greatest	Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Three Chords
	601	562	45	SLC	Til Debt-Part	Rich Poor	Chop Shop (N)	Mr. Friday	Real Housewives of OC	Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	ET Canada
	625	548	46	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs	Payback ** (1999, Action) Mel Gibson, Gregg Henry.	The Simpsons	South Park	Jon Dore Show	Demetri Martin	Daily Show
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	Mansions	Property Shop	Property Virgin	Unsellable	Hid Potential	Really Big Flip
	600	564	49	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	Lost "Exodus"	Star Trek: Voyager	Watchmen	The Circuit	Stargate SG-1	
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis	(DVS)	MTV News	Cribs	The Real World			
	581	566	53	MTV	MTV Presents	After	Family Guy	Seinfeld	Seinfeld	Raymond	Family Guy	Married... With
	618	524	54	TROP	Reality	Ad Persuasion	Outlaw Bikers	Ice Road Truckers	NCIS "Enigma"			
	522	506	55	HIS	NCIS "Enigma"		Mythes urbains	Mythes urbains	Pris au piège (HDTV)	Belle et dangereuse (HDTV)	Vidéo	
	129	773	60	CD	Biographies "Heidi Hollinger"	Murder, She Wrote	Summer Wine	Foot in Grave	SOUL (N)	Tuscan	Poltergeist	
OTTAWA	261	394	61	V	Will & Grace	Friends	Grocery	Grocery	Supersize vs. Superskinny (N)	Stuck (N)	Maxed Out (N)	Maxed Out
	269	350	70	APTN	Canadian Geographic		Reel Insights		APTN National News: Contact	Miywayawin	Guides	Wings-Canada
	621	527	71	TLK	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Blush: Make-Up Artist	The Tonight Show-Jay Leno	TMZ	
	603	561	95	FN	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover	Iron Chef America	Top Chef			

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Sharon Osbourne is being sued by a woman she allegedly attacked on her VH1 show, Rock of Love: Charm School, TMZ.com reports. Megan Hauserman reportedly filed a lawsuit in L.A. County Superior Court Monday against Osbourne, adds usmagazine.com. **METRO NEWS SERVICES**

Celebrity Buzz

'I am God's vessel': Kanye

PEOPLE Kanye West has a pretty high opinion of himself. In fact, the rapper believes he was chosen by God to have superior music ability.

"God chose me. He made a path for me. I am God's vessel," West said during a taping for the VH1 Storytellers series. "But my greatest pain in life is that I will never be able to see myself perform live," West added.



METRO NEWS SERVICES

Nicole loves Keith's sexy shots

PEOPLE Nicole Kidman's musician husband, Keith Urban, famously posed for Playgirl magazine eight years ago, but his wife hadn't seen the steamy photos until recently — and she wasn't let down.

"Nicole was impressed with the shots," Urban tells Britain's New magazine. "It was spread over two pages and had staples in all the right places."

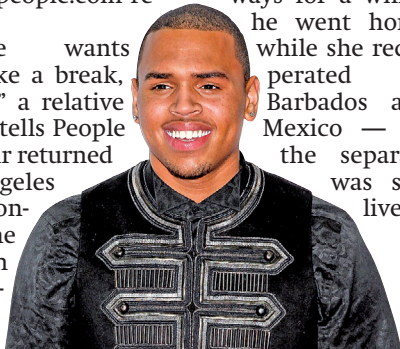


METRO NEWS SERVICES

Reunion sparks concerns

SCANDAL Rihanna may have spent the weekend in Miami with Chris Brown, but her family isn't quite ready for the tumultuous couple to reunite, people.com reports.

"Everyone wants them to take a break, to cool off," a relative of Rihanna tells People after the pair returned to Los Angeles together Monday. "No one wants them back together."



Family thought that the relationship was over after Brown allegedly battered Rihanna on Feb. 8. The couple went their own ways for a while — he went home, while she recuperated in Barbados and Mexico — but the separation was short-lived.

The pair reunited in Miami last weekend, spending time at the Star Island mansion of Sean (Diddy) Combs. A source close to the couple told People that the couple was "definitely together" and working on a reconciliation.

"I'm concerned," continues the relative. "I don't want her to make a mistake, and I don't want her to ever go through this again."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

So kill me, I wear a bikini: Miley

PEOPLE Miley Cyrus has quit jogging to stop people discussing her breasts, female-first.co.uk reports.

The 16-year-old star is furious she was accused of flaunting her curves by wearing a bikini top during an outdoor



run with her 21-year-old boyfriend Justin Gaston. The Hannah Montana actress said: "I don't get the big whoop, but whatever. I guess it's just ... I'm not allowed to jog any more."

Miley claims she was only wearing the bikini as her eight-year-old sister Noah wanted her to help clean the car.

"So I was like, 'OK, we're going to have a car wash.' It's, like, 100 degrees out," she told Ryan Seacrest on KIIS FM radio.

"As I'm running, it got a little bit lower and you could see a little of the bathing suit top. So, oh my goodness, Miley Cyrus wears a two-piece! Kill me! I'm wearing a two-piece, with an eight-year-old."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No Brangie drama: Jennifer

PEOPLE Jennifer Aniston tells Elle U.K. magazine she doesn't owe anybody her side of the story regarding her relationships with ex-husband Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie, msn.com reports.

"There are no sides! There is no bad guy and

there is no good guy. There are no villains and there is no heroine in this story. It's just not the case," the actress tells the publication. She continues, "I remind myself every



day that I am lucky. Look what's out there. Look what people are really living through. There's no comparison. I am happy."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Isn't she 60?: Canseco

PEOPLE Jose Canseco can't get over the fact that his 50-year-old ex Madonna is dating 22-year-old Brazilian model Jesus Luz, usmagazine.com reports.

"Oh, my God! Doesn't she realize she is 60 years old? Come on!" he told usmagazine.com, adding "When she is 80, what is she going to date — a guy who is 10

years old? It's getting crazy!"

Madonna doesn't seem to mind their nearly 30-year age difference. A source close to the singer recently told Us Weekly that while she and Luz are not serious, "she is seeing where it goes."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Lindsay converting?

RELIGION Lindsay Lohan has reportedly found a new way to express her devotion to rumoured girlfriend Samantha Ronson: The Mean Girls star is converting to Judaism, according to Perez Hilton.

Lohan and Ronson were

spotted attending services at a synagogue in London last week before hitting the bar mitzvah for Ronson's half-brother. And as speculation over Lohan's faith escalated, the starlet updated her Facebook status to read: "I'm converting."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Art imitates life for Lauren

CAREER It looks like art is imitating life for Lauren Conrad, people.com reports.

The star of The Hills reveals on her MySpace blog that her new book, L.A. Candy — which will be the first of a three-book series that is "loosely inspired" by her own experi-

ence — follows the story of 19-year-old girl named Jane Roberts "who moves to L.A. and unexpectedly becomes the star of a reality television show."

"Some of the characters may symbolize people in my life," writes Conrad, "But it is in no way calling anyone out."

METRO NEWS SERVICES





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